

REMARKS

Applicant is in receipt of a first Office Action from the United States Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the matter captioned above. Nineteen claims (that is, Claims 1-19) were pending in the application at the time the Office Action was issued.

In the Office Action, the examiner reminded Applicant of the proper language and format for an Abstract of the Disclosure. That is, the language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. Further, it should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes,". The examiner pointed out the use of the expression "invention" in the Abstract as originally filed.

In response to the action taken with regard to the Abstract, Applicant hereby submits a revised Abstract of the Disclosure. It is submitted that the objections to the specification have, thereby, been overcome.

In the Office Action, the examiner rejected Claims 8 and 13-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The examiner articulated a position that Claims 8 and 13 fail to recite sufficient structural elements and the interconnection of those elements to positively position and define how the stop bar provides an abutment with the extension arm as it extends from the support structure so that an integral structure able to function as claimed is recited. It was pointed out that Claims 14-19 were dependent upon Claim 13 and were, in the examiner's opinion, indefinite on the same basis as were Claims 8 and 13.

The examiner rejected Claims 1-7 and 9-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). The examiner took the position that those eleven claims were obvious, given the teachings of the Howe patent, in view of the teachings of the Snow patent.

The examiner indicated that Claim 8 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Similarly, the examiner indicated that Claims 13-19 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under § 112.

Applicant hereby amends his application. The following claims have been amended: Claims 1, 3, 7, 9 and 13. Claim 3 has been amended to change the dependency from Claim 2 to Claim 1. Claim 7 has been amended to correct a misspelling.

Claims 1, 9 and 13 have been substantively amended. Each of these three substantively-amended claims is independent in form. The limitations of Claim 8 have been incorporated in Claim 1 and, it is submitted, the rejections under § 112 articulated by the examiner have been overcome. Claims 3-7 are dependent, either directly or indirectly, upon Claim 1. Consequently, they incorporate therein all of the limitations of Claim 1 and are patentable on the same basis as is that independent claim.

Claim 9 has been amended to include limitations with regard to the stop bar originally introduced in Claim 8. It is submitted, therefore, that Claim 9 is also patentable. Claims 10-12 are dependent, either directly or indirectly, upon Claim 9. As such, they incorporate therein all of the limitations of Claim 9 and are patentable on the same basis as is Claim 9.

Finally, Claim 13 has been amended in a manner which, Applicant would submit, overcomes the rejection under § 112. Claim 13, it is felt, is also now allowable. Claims 14-19 are dependent, either directly or indirectly, upon Claim 13. As such, they incorporate therein all of the limitations of Claim 13 and are patentable on the same basis as is Claim 13.

In view of the action taken by this document, it is sincerely believed that all objections and rejections of the examiner in the

Office Action have been overcome. It is sincerely believed that this case is now in condition for allowance, the issuance of allowance papers are, therefore, earnestly solicited.

Please charge any deficiencies or credit any over payment to Deposit Account 14-0620.

Respectfully submitted,

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By his attorney

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